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## COVID-19\_President Friday Futurecast\_April 9, 2021

Joan Ferrini-Mundy

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Matthew Revitt <matthew.revitt@maine.edu>

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## Friday Futurecast — April 9

1 message

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**UMaine President's Office** <umaine.president@maine.edu>

Fri, Apr 9, 2021 at 7:23 PM

Reply-To: UMaine President's Office <umaine.president@maine.edu>

To: UM-EMPLOYEES@lists.maine.edu



# Friday Futurecast

## Health and safety update for university community members

Welcome to this week's Friday Futurecast

These updates are archived on the UMaine [Spring '21 website](#). The University of Maine at Machias also has a [Spring '21 website](#).

Message from Vice Chancellor and President Joan Ferrini-Mundy:

Dear members of the UMaine and UMM communities,

This afternoon with word of the sudden passing of men's ice hockey coach Red Gendron, our thoughts are with his family, players and the UMaine hockey community. His kindness,

thoughtfulness and commitment to excellence define his legacy at UMaine.

We will miss you Red.

Sincerely,

Joan Ferrini-Mundy

#### **Partnering to address health**

- A vaccination educational webinar at noon April 15, offered by the UMaine Institute of Medicine, UMaine's Innovative Media Research and Commercialization Center, and Northern Light Health, is open to students, employees and the public. Panelists include Dr. Jim Jarvis, Northern Light Health; Dr. Lisa Letourneau, Maine Department of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Laura Blaisdell, MaineHealth. Moderating will be Dr. Kelley Strout, director of the UMaine School of Nursing. Come learn more about why we should all get vaccinated. [Registration for the webinar is online.](#)

#### **Transparent and continuing communication**

- UMaine and UMM are participating in the UMS "This is our shot, Maine" campaign encouraging students, faculty, and staff with a goal of getting as many community members as possible vaccinated. Maine's vaccination program now includes everyone age 16 and older. See the list of [vaccination clinics statewide](#). A reminder to UMaine community members: [BAT Community Connector](#) bus transportation is free of charge with a MaineCard.

#### **In-person, on-campus experiences and other learning modes**

- In UMaine Athletics, the softball team hosts Hartford for a three-game series in the home opening weekend for the Black Bears. Maine and Hartford open the weekend series with a doubleheader at noon on Saturday and close out the series with one game at 11 a.m. on Sunday. All games will be streamed at [AmericaEast.TV](#). Baseball continues America East action when it travels to take on NJIT with doubleheaders at 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The baseball series will be streamed live on [AmericaEast.TV](#) and heard on the [Black Bears Sports Network](#). Men's and women's track & field will compete in the Wildcat Invitational hosted at UNH at 11 a.m. on Sunday and streamed at [AmericaEast.TV](#). The field hockey team is back at home on Sunday when it hosts UAlbany at 1 p.m. live on AmericaEast.TV. Reminder: No spectators are permitted at home games, following health and safety guidelines.

#### **Flexibility, responsiveness, empathy, and science**

- In keeping with UMaine's strategy of a measured and proportional response, our campus-based EOC is maintaining its long-standing 50-person group gathering size limit until there is a clear indication there is a reduction of COVID transmission in our campus population over a period of 14 days. This strategy is designed to have minimal impact on the community. We will be carefully reviewing the disease status and whether any changes or deferrals of pending larger group gathering limits are warranted at UMaine. [UMS authorized increased gathering limits as of April 5](#) in line with a change in state guidance and we hope UMaine can soon make use of that possibility. Again, however, UMaine is not increasing limits at this time. Other pandemic protocols, including 6-foot distancing, also remain in place. As with all pandemic guidance, the group-gathering limit is subject to change if circumstances warrant.

#### **Continuing our missions for Maine**

- Chancellor Malloy and President Ferrini-Mundy will lead a presentation, "The Path to Prosperity for Maine's Economy," from 8–9 a.m., April 14 for Eggs & Issues, the business breakfast forum of the Portland Community Chamber of Commerce. [Registration is](#)

[online](#).

- Reminder: Maine Impact Week begins Monday with over a dozen virtual events from across campus, culminating in the [UMaine Student Symposium](#), [keynoted by Dr. Nirav Shah](#), director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, at 11:30 a.m. on April 16. [Maine Impact Week events are online](#).